

Temperance Fountain  
Northeast corner of Pennsylvania Avenue and  
Seventh Street, N.W.  
Washington  
District of Columbia

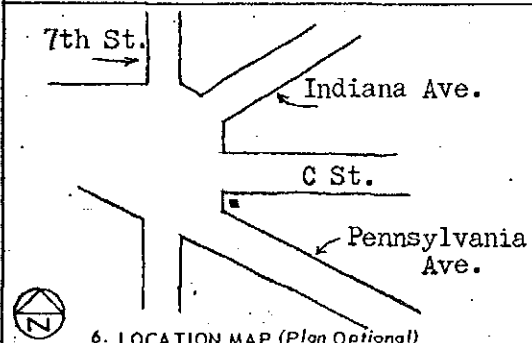
HABS No. DC-240

HABS  
DC  
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196-

PHOTOGRAPHS

Written Historical and Descriptive Data

Historic American Buildings Survey  
Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation  
National Park Service  
801 19th Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C.

1. STATE District of Columbia COUNTY TOWN Washington VICINITY STREET NO. NE corner of Pennsylvania Ave. and Seventh Street, N.W. ORIGINAL OWNER Public ORIGINAL USE Ornamental PRESENT OWNER Public PRESENT USE Ornamental WALL CONSTRUCTION It has no walls NO. OF STORIES One		HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY HABS DC 240	
		2. NAME Temperance Fountain  DATE OR PERIOD Probably circa 1875 STYLE ARCHITECT BUILDER	
		3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE HABS, DC, WASH, 196-	
4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION OPEN TO PUBLIC			
<p>This publicly owned ornamental fountain has survived a long winter of intolerant taste and can again be appreciated for what it is: a rather obvious and expressive symbolic monument to one aspect of social reform. Probably erected circa 1875, it is an open shelter about seven feet square in the form of a ciborium, constructed of large blocks of gray granite. Two plain steps form the base. Four Tuscan columns of polished granite on pedestals support a monolithic slab whose outer edges form a two-part entablature, while its soffit is hollowed into a saucer dome of moulded section. This slab, and another above it, constitute a pyramidal roof, at whose summit, atop a plain base, a bronze heron extends its neck to swallow (water). Alongside its slender legs stands a single reedy plant.</p> <p>At the center of this shelter there is a plain cylindrical granite base, resembling a simple Classical altar, supporting a pair of bronze dolphins with their tails intertwined and their heads (at the bottom) facing east and west to spout water. The floor of the shelter is a cast-iron slotted grille, now filled up with concrete.</p> <p>On the lower member of the entablature, in raised letters, appear the following words, one on each side: TEMPERANCE, FAITH, HOPE and CHARITY; on the west side of the base of the fountain is inscribed in letters standing out from an incised background, PRESENTED BY DR. HENRY D. COGSWELL OF SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.</p> <p>This monument is in good condition but it has not been operated as a fountain within recent memory.</p>			
5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE    Endangered No    Interior Good    Exterior Good			
6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)			
			
8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.		9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER Harley J. McKee Professor Emeritus of Architecture Syracuse University August 6, 1969  DATE OF RECORD	